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Attorney Docket No. 24764A

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2-17-02

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
on this 29 day of October, 2001

Donna Hiles  
Donna Hiles

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Ables

Serial No.: 09/593,550

Confirmation No.: 7906

Filed: 06/14/2000

For: String Binders and Method for Making Same

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner: Unknown

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant brings the art documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified application.

No representation is made that the art cited constitutes prior art or that the art cited is the most relevant art. The references are cited so that the Examiner will be aware of material known to the applicant. The Examiner is encouraged to consider the cited references and make an independent determination of materiality.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the period specified at 37 CFR 1.97 (c)--i.e., after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever occurs first. A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is provided below.

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The undersigned attorney certifies that each art document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart PCT application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

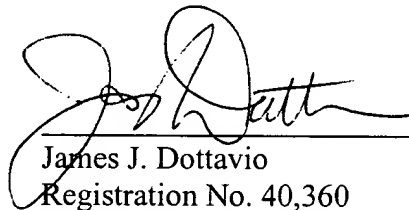
All of the cited art documents are in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner confirm consideration of the cited documents by initialing the attached Form PTO-1449 and returning a copy of the initialed form to Applicant.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this statement, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) in the event that the period specified at 37 CFR 1.97(b) has elapsed, please charge all required fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: <sup>October</sup>~~August~~ 25, 2000



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